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United States Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Manuel Gonzalez**, 21, Kansas City, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on December 15, 2003, before U.S. District Judge G. Thomas VanBebber to one count of **being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition**.

Melgren said that Gonzalez admitted at his plea that on August 29, 2003, Kansas City, Kansas, police officers responded to the report of a disturbance at a residence on South Ferree Street, Kansas City, Kansas. Officers learned from an occupant at the residence that Gonzalez had left the residence carrying a shotgun wrapped in a towel. A few blocks away, officers found Gonzalez carrying a towel containing a sawed-off shotgun. Gonzalez was arrested and during a search of his person, officers found a shotgun shell. Gonzalez admitted that he had previously been convicted of a felony, attempted aggravated battery, in Wyandotte County, Kansas, in 2001.

Gonzalez faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for March 8, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask in this prosecution.